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- (3) Except in the case of the Kumbakonam College, the College of Engineering and the Medical College, all the members were present. In the Kumbakonam College and the Engineering College the number of members present was 4 as against 5, the strength of the Committee, and in the case of the Medical College 3 out of the 5 members were present.

In the case of the Teachers' College, Saidapet, the Committee did not meet as the admissions had been made before the Committee was appointed by Government.

(4) *Medical Schools—*

The Selection Board was composed of—

- (1) Lieut.-Col. R. B. B. Foster, I.M.S.
- (2) Major W. C. Gray, I.M.S.
- (3) Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, M.D.

The Indian member belonged to the non-Brahman community.

- (5) The number of applications received was 492 out of which 250 were selected for admission. The Committee was guided by the rule for the selection of candidates for admission to the medical schools published in Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 23rd May 1922, according to which preference is given to candidates who have taken up one of the following as their special subject, viz., Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, Mathematics: (1) Practical Mathematics, (2) Algebra and Geometry in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination. The Committee also saw, as far as possible, that students of all communities were represented, provided they had the prescribed qualifications.

Telephonic communication to the residences of the hon. Members and Ministers at Ootacamund.

413 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the amount expended in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication at the residences of the Members of the Executive Council and Ministers at Ootacamund?

A.—Prior to 17th May 1922, an inclusive sum of Rs. 180 per annum was charged for telephone connexions both at Madras and Ootacamund with an additional sum of Rs. 20 per annum for every half a mile or fraction thereof by which the length of the connexion in Madras exceeded two miles, in addition to which a charge of Rs. 20 was made each time a telephone was moved from one house to another and a charge of Rs. 5 when it was moved from one room to another. The charges under this scale continued in force after the 17th May 1922 until the expiry of any six months' period for which an engagement had been entered into on the above principle. Subsequent to the 17th May 1922 or to the expiry of any such period a charge was made at the rate of Rs. 250 per annum for the period in which the telephone was used in Madras and at the rate of Rs. 200 per annum for the period in which it was used in Ootacamund with similar charges for any changes that might be made in the location of telephones. Owing

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to the change in the system of charging, the accounts are very complicated. The following is as nearly as can be ascertained the rent charge in respect of each Member or Minister on account of his telephone connexion in Ootacamund in 1922 :—

	RS.	A.	P.
The hon. the Finance Member	80	11	0
„ the Revenue Member	48	8	0
„ the Law Member	56	7	0
„ the Home Member	93	6	0
„ the Minister for Local Self-Government.	47	11	0
„ the Minister for Development	37	8	0
„ the Minister for Education	47	13	0

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ In my question I ask for ‘ the amount expended in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication at the residences of the Members of the Executive Council and Ministers at Ootacamund ’ but in the answer the charges for rent are given. I do not ask for the rent, but I ask for the amount expended in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Is not ‘ rent ’ expenditure ? ”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ No doubt ‘ rent ’ also includes expenditure, but I want to know the expenditure incurred in connexion with the installation of telephonic communication, that is, the expenditure incurred in laying the line from the main office to the Members’ houses.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ The line is laid by the Imperial department and we have nothing to do with the cost of it. The expenditure from Provincial funds is exactly what is shown in the reply to the question.”

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—“ Am I to understand that the Government did not spend any money in laying the lines ? ”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ The hon. Member is perfectly correct in his assumption.”

District board engineers.

414 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that there are a few district board engineers and assistant engineers who have already completed their 55th year and have obtained extension of service ?

A.—The Government have no definite information.

Women and children dispensary, Tiruppattur.

415 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to abolish the women and children dispensary at Tiruppattur town, North Arcot district, from the 1st of October 1922, owing to financial stringency ;